

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 194

By Brooks H

A RESOLUTION to commend the Taiwan for its relations with the United States and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, in March of 2008, Taiwan held the fourth direct Presidential election and witnessed its peaceful transition of political power, paving the way for Taiwan as a beacon of democracy of Asia and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are longstanding allies who both deeply cherish the values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, since 1980, the State of Tennessee and Taiwan have enjoyed long, cordial, and mutually beneficial sister-state relations, and share a friendship which continues to strengthen with each passing year; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth-largest trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan's third-largest trading partner; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement between Taiwan and mainland China went into effect in September of 2010. Today, the government of Taiwan has committed itself to achieving peace and co-prosperity with mainland China; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is an active member of the international community with a long history of commitment to international health and humanitarian aid as well as environmental protection; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and support the democratization efforts of the Taiwan and the nation's meaningful participation in the World Health Organization, the

International Civil Aviation Organization, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as a number of other international organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we also welcome all opportunities, including the resumption of meetings of the United States-Taiwan Trade and Investment Framework Agreement and Taiwan's participation in the United States' Visa Waiver Program, which enhance the special sister-state bond between Tennessee and Taiwan and encourage further cultural, educational, and business exchanges between the citizens of Tennessee and Taiwan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared and forwarded to Ms. Anna A. Kao, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta.